

**In the Claims**

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A device for controlling flows in a switched communication network comprising at least one transmitter device and one receiver device three devices linked to together through at least one switch (20) by means of multiple physical links, in which each of one or more virtual links, which are each a logical single-direction link using at least one physical link, enables information to be sent from a transmitter device to at least one receiver device, wherein characterized in that each switch (20), which manages the virtual links and transmission rates dynamically in order to adapt optimally to instantaneous network traffic, contains an allocation table (T), defined statically, which associates a bandwidth with each of the virtual links so as to guarantee a maximum transmission time of an item of information, on each virtual link, from a transmitter device to one or more receiver devices, and an allocation such that for every physical link the sum of the bandwidths allocated to virtual links using this physical link is less than the bandwidth of this physical link, to guarantee that there will never be any congestion of the communication switched network.

2. (Currently Amended) A device in claim 1, in which the allocation table (T) is such that a bandwidth may be allocated to a set of flows.

3. (Currently Amended) A process for controlling flows in a switched communication network, comprising at least three devices ~~one transmitter device and at least one receiver device~~ linked together through at least one switch (20) by means of multiple physical links, in which ~~a~~ each of one or more virtual links, which are each a logical single-direction link using at least one physical link, allows information to be sent from a transmitter device to at least one receiver device, ~~wherein characterized in that, in the switch,~~ which manages the virtual links and transmission rates dynamically in order to adapt optimally to instantaneous network traffic, an allocation table ( $T$ ), defined statically, is used, which associates a bandwidth with each of the virtual links so as to guarantee a maximum transmission time of an item of information, in relation to each virtual link, from a transmitter device to one or more receiver devices, and an allocation such that for every physical link the sum of the bandwidths allocated to the various virtual links using this physical link is less than the bandwidth of this physical link, to guarantee that there will never be any congestion of the communication switched network.

4. (Currently Amended) A process in claim 3, in which the allocation table ( $T$ ) is such that a bandwidth may be allocated to a set of flows.